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(71) Applicants and

(72) Inventors: **BRUN DEL RE, Riccardo** [CA/CA]; 21 Park Street, 2nd Floor, Suite B, Aylmer, Quebec, J9H 4J6 (CA). **KOLPIN, Hans** [CA/CA]; R.R.#1, White Lake, Ontario, K0A 3L0 (CA). **BATKIN, Izmail** [CA/CA]; 911G-Elmsmere Road, Gloucester, Ontario K1J 8G4 (CA).

(74) Agent: **FRENCH, David, J.**; P.O. Box 2486, Stn. D, Ottawa, K1P 5W6, Ontario (CA).

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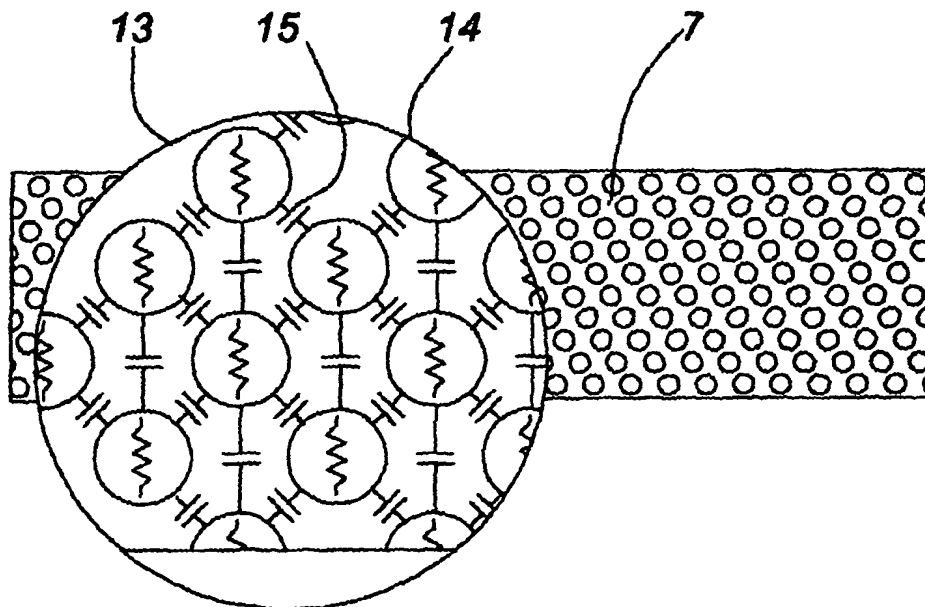
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(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
5 February 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Glossary of Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SKIN IMPEDANCE MATCHED BIOPOTENTIAL ELECTRODE



(57) Abstract: A bio-electrode for detecting heart signals and the like comprises a dry electrode surface having an elevated resistivity to reduce the effect of polarization noise. The electrode is combined with a circuit having an external discharge resistor across which an output signal is obtained wherein the discharge resistor has a value which reduces the time constant of polarization noise to less than one second.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/CA 03/00426

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B5/0408

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 581 821 A (CAHALAN PATRICK T ET AL) 15 April 1986 (1986-04-15) example 3	1
A	US 3 923 042 A (HAJDU LASZLO ET AL) 2 December 1975 (1975-12-02) figure 1	1,3
A	US 4 669 479 A (DUNSEATH JR W J ROSS) 2 June 1987 (1987-06-02) claim 2	1
A	US 5 354 790 A (KEUSCH PRESTON ET AL) 11 October 1994 (1994-10-11) table II	1

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 July 2003

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01.12.2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Clevorn, J.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA 03/00426

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1, 3-9, 13, 14

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1,3-9,13,14

bio-electrode with a body-directed surface comprising a plurality of relatively conductive areas connected to conductive pathways passing through the bio-electrode, said islands being surrounded by generally nonconducting background material

2. claims: 2,10-12,15-20,22-24

a bio-electrode with an external signal-detecting circuit that provides for the rapid discharge of polarization-generated noise while still permitting maintenance of a satisfactory signal capture ratio

3. claim: 21

bio-electrode with a substantially non-adhesive body-directed surface

4. claim: 25

two body-electrodes in combination with a common mode noise differential sensing circuit

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/CA/88/00426

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